To the Chairman and Members

OF THE

Urban District Council of Padiham.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my report for the year 1903. The death rate is a little lower than that of last year and the birth rate is higher. Apart from the Small-pox at the early part of the year we have had no particularly prevalent disease and the Zymotic death rate is low.

The deaths have totalled 189, giving a rate of 15·48, as compared with 15·97 for 1902, and with 20·40 for 1901. Fifty-three occured in persons over 65 years of age and fifty eight in children under one year. The latter number gives 168·11 as the rate of deaths in children under one year per 1000 births, as compared with 191·74 for 1902, 219·94 for 1901, 189·91 for 1900, 229·5 for 1899, there is thus an improvement but the rate is still to high. There are still far too many cases of Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, &c.

The chief causes of the deaths were :—Measles 1, Whooping Cough 3, Diptheria 1, Typhoid Fever 1, Diarrhœa 2, Enteritis 9, Puerperal Fever 1, Phthisis 12, Cancer 8, Bronchitis 12, Pneumonia 13, Premature Birth 6, Heart Disease 15.

Eighty three deaths occurred in males and 106 in females.

The death rate from the seven chief Zymotic diseases, (Measles, Typhoid, Diptheria, &c.) is ·73, as compared with 1·80 for 1902.

The Phthisis rate is ·99, that for 1902 was ·81.

The details of the Small-pox outbreak were contained in the report for 1902, thirty nine cases having occured up to December 31st. There were 14 more in January, 8 in March, 3 in April, 1 in May, all were transferred to Crown Point.

In addition to these 26 cases of Small-pox there have been the following reports of Infectious Disease :—Diptheria 10, Membranous Croup 1, Erysipelas 15, Scarlet Fever 12, Enteric Fever 3, Continued Fever 2, Puerperal Fever 1, making a total of seventy for the year. As you will notice in the death returns three of these were fatal, Diptheria 1, Typhoid 1, Puerperal Fever 1. In 1902 there were 178 reports but 105 of these were of Scarlet Fever.

Births :—These numbered 345. Males 174, Females 171, 22 being illegitimate. In 1902 there were 339 and in 1901 341. The birth rate is 28·26, those for the two previous years being 26·95 and 27·93 respectively.

The Bakehouses in the town have all been examined, one was ordered to be disused.

Slaughter houses are private but kept in a sanitary condition.

Lodging houses have been frequently inspected and the existing regulations with regard to them have in all cases been insisted upon.

The water supply is abundant and of excellent quality.

The Sewerage system is efficient.

124 notices have been served as to nuisances, all of which have been remedied.

I enclose the usual tables of births, deaths, and infectious disease.

I AM GENTLEMEN,

YOURS OBEDIENTLY,

WALTER SMITHIES.

Padiham,
17th February, 1904.